

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 /036 W

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R 092105Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9262

INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PARIS 11845

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, FR, RO

SUBJECT: RAOUL DELAYE, NEW FRENCH AMBASSADOR TO
BUCHAREST

1. THE QUAI D'ORSAY HAS JUST NAMED RAOUL DELAYE (PRO-
NOUNCED DUH-LAY) AS AMBASSADOR TO BUCHAREST, REPLACING
FRANCIS LEVASSEUR. BORN AUGUST 28, 1922 IN A FRENCH
PROVINCIAL VILLAGE, HOLDING DEGREES IN LAW, LETTERS AND
POLITICAL SCIENCE, DELAYE BEGAN HIS CAREER IN THE
FRENCH RESIDENCE GENERAL IN MOROCCO FROM 1949 UNTIL 1956,
WHEN HE WAS ATTACHED TO THE PRESS SERVICE OF THE FRENCH
EMBASSY IN RABAT. IN 1958 HE WAS NAMED FIRST SECRETARY
IN THE SAME EMBASSY, AND IN 1959 HE WAS ASSIGNED TO
BONN. IN 1962 HE WAS PROMOTED TO SECOND COUNSELOR,
A POSITION HE HELD UNTIL 1967, WHEN HE WAS
NAMED AMBASSADOR TO OUAGADOUGOU. IN MARCH 1973 HE
BECAME ACTING HEAD OF THE INFORMATION AND PRESS SERVICE
AT THE QUAI D'ORSAY, AND MAY 1974 WAS NAMED HEAD OF
THIS SERVICE.

2. DELAYE AND MICHEL JOBERT, FORMER MINISTER OF FOREIGN
AFFAIRS (1973-74) ARE CLOSE, REPORTEDLY CHILDHOOD
FRIENDS. DELAY'S PROMOTION TO HEAD OF THE QUAI SERVI
OCCURED WHILE JOBERT WAS STILL MINISTER, AND WAS NO
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DOUBT DUE TO THE LATTER. DELAYE ACCOMPANIED JOBERT ON

HIS TRIPS ABROAD AND ACTED NOT ONLY AS HIS SPOKESMAN
BUT AS CONFIDANT. EVEN THE MOST CYNICAL PARIS REPORTERS
SPEAK WELL OF DELAYE, AND LE MONDE DECLARED THAT
JOURNALISTS ACCREDITED TO THE QUAI WILL GREATLY MISS
HIM. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT HAD HE NOT BECOME
IDENTIFIED SO CLOSELY WITH JOBERT HE MIGHT HAVE RECEIVED
AN EVEN MORE IMPORTANT POST THAN BUCHARERST. WHATEVER THE
CASE, HE IS CONGENIAL, WELL-INFORMED DIPLOMAT AND WILL
DOUBT PROVE A WELCOME ADDITION TO BUCHAREST DIPLOMATIC
CIRCLES.

3. DELAYE IS MARRIED WITH TWO CHILDREN. HE SPEAKS GOOD
ENGLISH.
RUSH

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Message Attributes

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